

INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT

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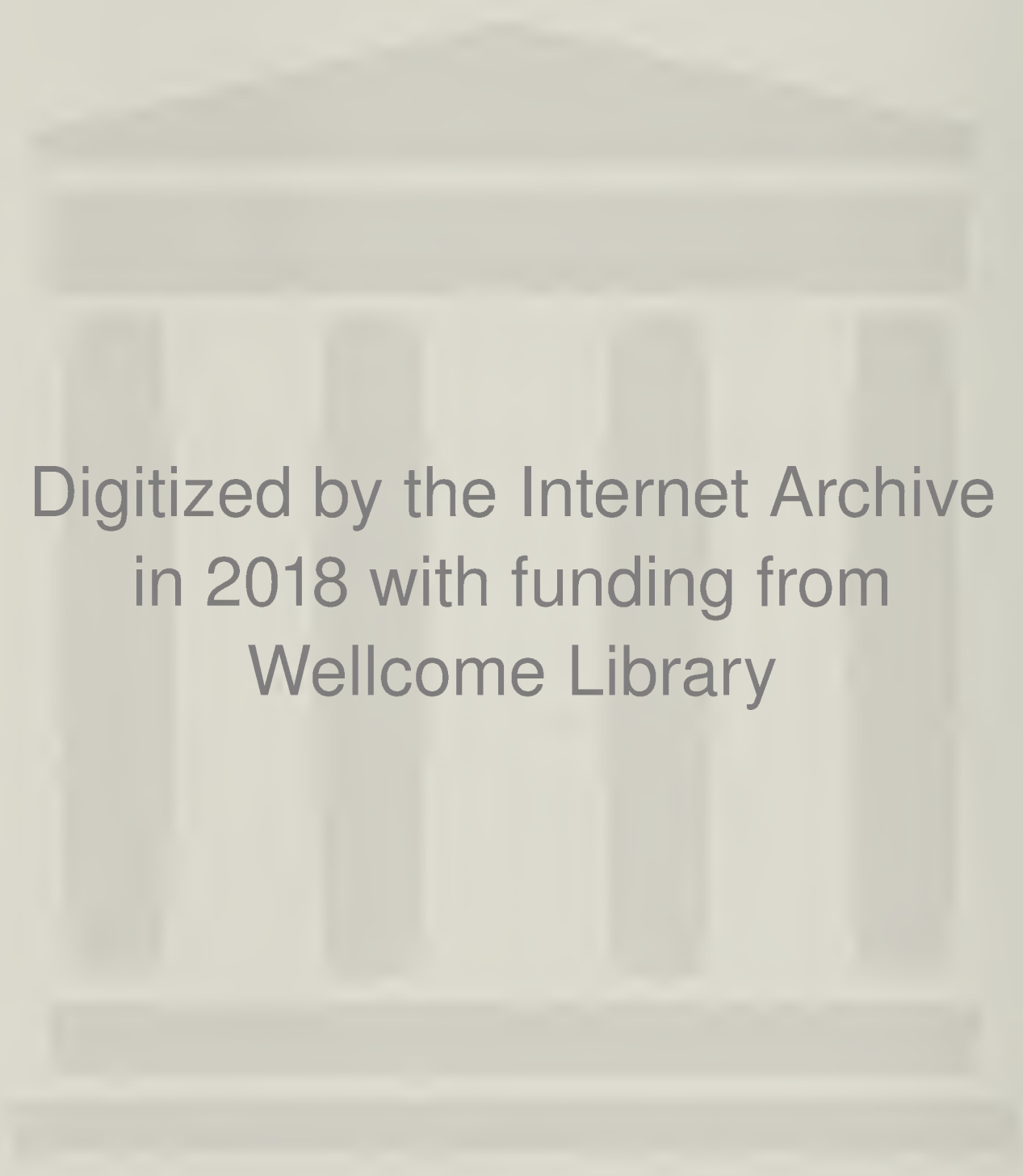
HEALTH OF WOLVERHAMPTON

FOR THE YEAR 1942

BY

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August, 1943.

To the Chairmen and Members of the Health and
Maternity and Child Welfare Committees.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present an interim report on the health of
Wolverhampton for the year 1942.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the
report appears in an extremely abridged form and reference is only made to the
more important features of the work of the Health Department.

1. After three years of war the general health of the community was satisfactory.
2. The weather during the early months of the year was exceptionally severe and
was accompanied by a relatively mild outbreak of influenza. This latter caused
a great deal of sickness and morbidity, but was rarely fatal. In spite of this
bad start the general death rate was only 11.0 per 1,000 which is the lowest
rate recorded in Wolverhampton since 1930. (The same death rate obtained in
1939). As estimates of population are uncertain guides in war-time this rate
must be accepted with reserve. Far more reliable is the infant mortality rate
which is based on the actual number of births. For two years in succession,
Wolverhampton has had a record low infant mortality rate :-

1941 : Fifty deaths under one year per 1,000 births.

1942 : FORTY-~~SEVEN~~ deaths under one year per 1,000 births.

This affords sound reasons for saying that the health of expectant mothers and
young infants is being well looked after in this town even amid the exigencies
and distractions of war.

2. Last year I referred to the value of immunisation against diphtheria and
mentioned the energetic measures being taken both centrally and locally to persuade
parents to have their children protected. I also observed that the likelihood
of a diphtheria epidemic would be greatly reduced when seventy-five per cent of
the susceptible population (i.e. children under fourteen) had been immunised, and
that a case of diphtheria would be a rare occurrence in the town when that figure
reached ninety per cent. In 1942 still better results were obtained from
Wolverhampton's Immunisation Campaign, and nearly four thousand children received
this protection. At the end of the year it was estimated that forty-one per cent
of the children under the age of five years and sixty-three per cent between the
ages of five and fifteen years had been injected. During the twelve months
ending December 31st, 1942, there were only eighty-two cases of this disease in
the town with five deaths. When it is realised that the mean annual deaths from
diphtheria during the preceding ten years was 12.8 it will be clear that results
are now being obtained. Not one of the five deaths occurred in an immunised
person. As diphtheria is most fatal in children between one and five years, our
efforts are now being concentrated more especially on this age group.

3. An interesting outbreak of catarrhal jaundice was discovered in the town in
the late Spring of 1942. All the cases were mild and there were no serious com-
plications, but a good deal of absence from school was attributable to the out-
break. Dr. Edwards, the Senior Assistant Medical Officer, made a very thorough
investigation into all the reported cases. His findings are given on page 10
of this report. The epidemic resembled closely other epidemics reported from
different parts of the country.

Once again I desire to thank the staff of the Department for the
valuable and unstinted assistance they have given during a period which was far
removed from the normal. To the Chairmen of both the Health and Maternity and
Child Welfare Committees I tender my sincere thanks for their generous support
and the unfailing help they have always supplied when any difficulties arose.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

R. H. H. JOLLY,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA.EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

AREA OF BOROUGH	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,113 Acres.
POPULATION (Registrar General's estimate)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	147,200.
(Census 1931)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133,212.
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1942)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,604.
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	...	...	...	...	£970,931.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£3,872.
		<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>			
LIVE) Legitimate	2,559.	1,381.	1,178.	BIRTH)			
BIRTHS) Illegitimate	141.	79.	62.	RATE)			18.3.
STILL BIRTHS	92.	51.	41.				
Rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	...			29.3.
DEATHS	1,616.	861.	755.	DEATH)			
				RATE)			11.0.
NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION	...	...	...	...			1,084.
(Excess of births over deaths in the year).							
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.							
		Deaths.					
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	4			RATE PER)			1.43.
(b) Other Puerperal Causes	3			1,000 BIRTHS)			1.07.
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER	(Legitimate (114)	...	...				45.
ONE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS	(Illegitimate (9)	...	...				64.
	(Total (123)...	...	...				46.
DEATH RATE from Measles (1)...	...	...	...	...			0.01.
" " " Whooping Cough (4)...	...	...	...	...			0.03.
" " " Diarrhoea and Enteritis (21)							
(under 2 years per 1,000 births)...	...	...	...	...			7.78.
" " " Cancer (230).	...	...	...	...			1.58.
" " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (69)	...	...	...	...			0.47.
" " " all forms of Tuberculosis (87)	...	...	...	...			0.59.

Note :- The figures in the above table are those supplied by the Registrar General.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE
AREA.

A. VITAL STATISTICS.

(i) Population.

The civilian population used for calculating the various rates is that for 1939, namely 147,200.

(ii) Births.

The total births registered during the year were 2,700, the birth rate being 18.3 as compared with 17.5 in 1941. This is the highest birth rate in Wolverhampton since 1929. Still-births registered amounted to ninety-two, and the still-birth rate was 29.3.

(iii) Deaths.

There was a slight decline in the general death rate from 11.2 per 1,000 population to 11.0. For England and Wales this figure was 11.6, and for the one hundred and twenty six great towns it was 13.3. Deaths from cancer rose slightly from 221 to 230, but there was a fall in the total deaths due to tuberculosis from 171 to 151.

(iv) Infant Mortality.

The total deaths under one year of age were 123, including nine deaths of illegitimate infants. This gives an infant mortality rate of 46 per 1,000 births, and is five lower than that for 1941, which was itself the lowest ever recorded in Wolverhampton. When it is remembered that in 1901 the infant mortality rate was 195 and that in 1921 it had fallen to 88, the sustained amount of progress in infant welfare that has been made should be appreciated. The corresponding rate for England and Wales for 1942 was 49, and for the great towns, including London, 59.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(a) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Eight centres remain open for infant consultations and at five of them ante-natal clinics are held in addition. The number of new cases under one year attending the various clinics was 1,504, and there were also 242 new cases over one year of age. The total attendances of those children were slightly less than last year, possibly due to increased part-time employment of mothers. The various ante-natal clinics in the town continue to do good work and to attract an increasing number of women. Two of the five clinics are open twice a week and the other three once a week only. The average attendance at these clinics varies between 18 and 24 persons and constitutes a full mornings work for the doctor and nurse. The total attendances of expectant mothers in 1942 were 7,003.

(b) MIDWIVES.

The number of midwives who notified their intention to practise during 1942 was as follows :-

Trained midwives working in institutions	...	...	...	30
Municipal Midwives	...	...	...	16
Trained midwives working indopendently..	...	...	...	8

The Municipal Service of Domiciliary Midwives was adequately maintained but the staff became overworked towards the end of the year because of the increasing number of births and the shortage of institutional accommodation. A total of 1,393 confinements were attended by sixteen Municipal Midwives, and the visits paid by them amounted to 43,147. The mean number of confinements attended by a single midwife during the year was 88 but the figure varied between individual midwives from 62 to 137.

(c) MATERNAL MORTALITY.

3.

There were seven maternal deaths during the year of which four were due to puerperal sepsis and three to other causes. The maternal death rate is therefore 2.5 per 1,000 births. The corresponding rate for England and Wales is 2.01. The following is a short summary of the seven deaths :-

1. Ante-natal care was undertaken by a doctor. The patient was admitted to Hospital when she was approximately eight months pregnant suffering from Chorea Gravis. She died the following day.
2. There was no ante-natal care in this case. Death was certified by the coronor, after a post-mortem without inquest, to be due to General Peritonitis following Septic Abortion.
3. Transferable death. Ante-natal care was undertaken by a midwife and a doctor outside the Borough. The patient refused X-ray examination and was generally uncooperative. The confinement took place at home. Death was due to shock, obstructed labour, locked twins.
4. Ante-natal care was undertaken by a doctor. Labour commenced while the patient was in a Nursing Home but delivery was only completed after the patient was removed to Hospital. Death was due to shock, obstructed labour, Hydrocephalus.
5. This patient regularly attended the Municipal ante-natal clinic. The pregnancy was normal and the confinement was short and easy. Four days after delivery there was a rise in temperature. The doctor was summoned and two days later when no improvement took place the patient was removed to Hospital. On examination at the Hospital the patient was found to be very toxic. Her condition did not improve and she died on the tenth day after delivery. A post-mortem examination revealed Peritonitis.
6. Ante-natal care was undertaken by a doctor. Delivery was completed by forceps - one stitch was inserted in the perineum. Four days after delivery the temperature rose - scarlet fever was diagnosed and the patient removed to the Isolation Hospital. Death took place nineteen days later of Pelvic Cellulitis and Pulmonary Embolism.
7. This was a case of abortion. A post-mortem examination was held but there was no inquest. Death was certified to be due to Cardiac Failure - Haemorrhage due to abortion and Septic Infection.

(d) ANTE-NATAL CARE.

It is very encouraging to note that out of a total of 3,490 deliveries in Wolverhampton during the year only in 206 cases could no record of ante-natal care by a doctor be proved. The number of new cases who attended the Municipal Clinic sessions, of which there are now seven, shows a satisfactory increase, 1,408 in 1942 as compared with 1,154 in 1941. There was an appreciable rise in the number of confinements taking place in New Cross Hospital and in Nursing Homes, doubtless due to the increasing difficulty in obtaining domestic help in the homes. The following table is self explanatory :-

Number attending the Municipal A.N. Clinic	...	...	1,408
" " a Doctor under the A.N. Scheme..	...	...	704
" " A.N. Clinic at Women's Hospital.	...	...	146
" " " " at New Cross Hospital	...	...	300
" confined in Nursing Homes who engaged a doctor...			435
" " at home known to have engaged a doctor..			211
" living in and confined in institutions under the care of a doctor	...	...	61
			3,285

The number of Registered Nursing Homes in the Borough remains at eleven, with fifty available maternity beds and thirty-six medical or surgical beds. In November the keepers of one Maternity Home consisting of eleven beds, notified their intention of relinquishing their registration at the end of three months because of difficulty in obtaining adequate domestic staff. During the year, also the keeper of another Maternity Home was censured by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee because of certain irregularities in the conduct of her Home. On the whole the other Homes continued to be run in a satisfactory manner.

(f) CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

Twenty-nine foster children were on the books at the beginning of 1942, and on December 31st. there were twenty-four on the books under twenty-three foster mothers. New cases coming under supervision during the year amounted to forty-seven. During the year the Infant Life Protection Visitors paid fifty-five special visits to foster children and fifteen visits to prospective foster homes. There were twenty-three Adoption Orders made during the year.

(g) WAR-TIME NURSERIES.

At the urgent request of the Ministry of Health three day nurseries were opened in Wolverhampton in 1942 :-

(a) The Woodlands: These premises consist of a large detached private house on the north-east side of the town, with a considerable garden. Shortly after the outbreak of war it had been taken over and equipped as an Intermediate Hostel under the Emergency Scheme. The fittings and equipment of the Hostel were stored in some of the bedrooms and outbuildings, and it was opened as a day nursery for forty-eight children on April 8th, 1942. Should it be necessary at any time to restore it to its original purpose this could be done in the space of a few hours.

(b) Marston Road: This consists of the Ministry of Health's standard hutment unit and provides forty places. It stands in the centre of a busy industrial area in the south of the town. The opening date was October 19th, 1942.

(c) Elston Hall: This is a similar standard hutment on land leased from the Education Committee and adjoining a large elementary school to the north of the Borough. It was first opened on October 19th, 1942.

The following table gives the attendances at each nursery from the time of opening to December 31st, 1942 :-

	<u>WOODLANDS.</u>	<u>MARSTON ROAD.</u>	<u>ELSTON HALL.</u>
Number of days open	226	66	62
Attendances under two years	2,036	539	313
Attendances 2 to 5 years	4,903	842	685
Average daily attendance of under 2's:	9	8	5
" " " " 2 to 5's :	22	13	11

Immunisation against diphtheria was carried out at the Woodlands and Elston Hall as follows :-

	<u>WOODLANDS.</u>	<u>ELSTON HALL.</u>
No. of children already immunised		
on admission	27	5
No. of children immunised in the Nursery:	38	26
No. of refusals	2	-

Outbreaks of whooping cough occurred at both the Woodlands and Marston Road Day Nurseries and it was for this reason that no immunisation against diphtheria was undertaken at the latter during the three months that it was open in 1942. With the parents consent, all the contacts of whooping cough in the Nurseries who had not had the disease, received two injections of Pertussis vaccine. Results were as follows :-

	<u>WOODLANDS.</u>	<u>MARSTON ROAD.</u>
(a) No. of contacts	30	25
(b) No. of contacts injected.	22	24
(c) No. of (b) not contracting disease ...	5	9
(d) No. of (b) with mild attack.	?	8
(e) No. of (b) with severe attack.	?	7

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

At the suggestion of the Ministry of Health, the routine tables are omitted from this report, but all the information is available and has been filed for reference.

(1) WATER SUPPLY.

Samples of water were regularly taken in connection with the Corporation supply, each sample being submitted for bacteriological examination. All the thirty-seven such samples reported upon proved satisfactory.

(2) NUISANCES.

There were 2,096 promises reported to the Committee, preparatory to the service of formal notices requiring abatement of the nuisances. One complaint was received regarding alleged excessive noise from factory premises. This was dealt with without recourse to legal proceedings.

(3) OVERCROWDING.Cases of Overcrowding Remedied, 1942.

By Displacements under Part I of the Housing Act, 1936...	...	14
By Displacements under Part II of the Housing Act, 1936..	...	Nil
By Transference of families in overcrowded Council houses to larger houses	...	Nil
By allocation of Council houses to families in privately owned houses	...	3
By removal or reduction in the size of families	...	14
		<u>31</u>
Cases remedied after service of notices under sections 59 or 66 of the Housing Act, 1936 ..	...	15
TOTAL ABATED	...	<u>46</u>

(4) SCABIES.

Despite the depletion of staff, it has been found necessary to continue the treatment of persons affected by Scabies. The Station was utilised during the year in connection with the following families :-

Cases of Scabies Dealt With, 1942.

	: Number :	No. of :	Analysis of Persons Treated									: TOTAL numbe.		
	: of :	houses :	Adults			Children						: of persons		
	: families:	con- :	(Over 14 years)			4 to 14 years			Under 4 years:			treated.		
	: affected:	cerned :	M :	F :	Total :	M :	F :	Total :	M :	F :	Total :	M :	F :	Total :
During 1942	: 65	: 54	: 34:	74 :	108 :	54:	44 :	98 :	20:	27 :	47 :	111:	142 :	253
	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :
TOTAL to date:	129	103	:101:	163 :	264 :	114:	99 :	213 :	48:	42 :	90 :	266:	301 :	567
	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :

(5) RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

Rag Flock is not manufactured upon any premises situate within the Borough, but 7 samples of the material were officially taken during the year from firms manufacturing upholstery, and whose premises are within the District. In one case the sample contained 35 parts of soluble chlorine per 100,000 parts of the flock; this is equivalent to 5 parts of chlorine per 100,000 in excess of the maximum permitted by the Regulations. A letter of warning was forwarded to the firm concerned.

SECTION D.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The following figures summarise to date the action taken by the Council and the results that have accrued by Clearance Schemes under the various statutes :-

Clearance Schemes : Yearly Progress of Demolition
by December, 1942.

Year.	Statute.	Scheme.	No. of Houses:		No. of Persons Displaced.
			Demolished.		
			Pink	Grey:	
1925	:Housing Acts, 1890	:Faulkland St. Improvement	: 279	: -	: 1,498
1930	:to 1919.	:Area : CPO.	: 1	: -	: -
1932	:Housing Act, 1930	:Brickkiln Croft Area:CPO.	: 67	: 2	: 308
1933	: do.	: do.	: 2 82	: 6	: 400
1934	: do.	: do.	: 3	: 5	: 24
"	: do.	:Walsall St. (West) Area:CPO.	: 20	: -	: 94
1935	: do.	: do.	: 3 406	: 4	: 1,958
1936	: do.	: do.	: 20	: 1	: 73
	: do.	:Cannon St. Area:CPO.	: 4 5	: -	: 21
	: do.	:Walsall St. (East) CPO.	: 64	: 1	: 267
1937	: do.	: do.	: 5 300	: -	: 1,071
	: do.	:Walsall St. (West) CPO.	: 1	: -	: 12
	: do.	:Wood St. (No.1) Area:CPO.	: 6 7	: -	: 14
	: do.	:Wood St. (No.2) "Cl.O".	: 7 13	: -	: 64
	: do.	:Shrubbery St. Area:CPO.	: 8 3	: -	: 11
	: do.	:Ward St. Area:CPO.	: 9 11	: -	: 50
	: do.	:Navigation St. Area:CPO.	: 11 -	: -	: -
1938	: do.	:Walsall St. (West) Area:CPO	: 1	: 2	: 9
	: do.	:Walsall St. (East) Area:CPO	: 79	: -	: 333
	: do.	:Wood St. (No.1) Area:CPO.	: 9	: -	: 41
	: do.	:Shrubbery St. Area:CPO.	: 18	: -	: 75
	: do.	:Navigation St. Area:CPO.	: 43	: -	: 170
	:Housing Act, 1936	:Monmore Green (No.1) Area:CPO.	: 119	: 1	: 507
	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.1A) " Cl.O:	: 7	: -	: 30
	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.2) " CPO.:	: 9	: -	: 44
	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.2A) " Cl.O.:	: 3	: -	: 13
	: do.	:Moseley Village (No.1) " CPO.:	: 2	: -	: 11
1939	: do.	: do.	: 4	: -	: 24
1939	:Housing Act, 1930	:Walsall St. (East) Area:CPO.:	: 2	: -	: 8
	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.1) Area:CPO:	: 143	: 5	: 593
	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.2A) " Cl.O:	: 2	: -	: 3
	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.3) " CPO.:	: 13	: -	: 44
	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.4) " CPO.:	: 28	: -	: 113
1940	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.1) " CPO.:	: 17	: 5	: 78
	: do.	:Moseley Village (No.1) " CPO.:	: 64	: -	: 254
	:Housing Act, 1936	:Moseley Village (No.2) " CPO.:	: 6	: -	: 19
	: do.	:Dale Street (No.1) Area:CPO:	: 8	: -	: 32
1941	: do.	:Monmore Green (No.1) " CPO.:	: -	: 4	: 15
	: do.	:Moseley Village (No.1) " CPO.:	: 34	: 1	: 144
	: do.	:Dale Street (No.1) Area:CPO:	: 202	: -	: 636
1942	: do.	:Moseley Village (No.1) " CPO.:	: 22	: -	: 96
	: do.	:Dale Street (No.1) Area:CPO:	: 12	: -	: 53
		TOTALS ...	: 2,128	: 37	: 9,212

There were forty-seven houses still awaiting demolition in the Moseley Village (No.1) Compulsory Purchase Order and one hundred and seventy-three in the Dale Street (No.1) Compulsory Purchase Order.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

The undermentioned table shows the increased activities of the Council since 1925, with respect to individual blocks of unfit dwelling houses :-

Individual Unfit Houses.

Summary of Action Taken from January, 1925 to 31st December, 1942.

Year.	Statute.	No. Houses Repres- ented.	Closing Orders made.	Demol- ition Orders made.	No. Houses Closed.	No. Houses Demol'd.	Statutory Undertak- ings Accepted.	Compld. with.	Closing Orders Deter- mined.	Houses volunt arily demol'd
1925	1925 Act.	16	16	-	16	-	-	-	-	-
1926	do.	22	22	-	22	18	-	-	-	-
1927	do.	25	25	3	25	19	-	-	-	-
1928	do.	8	8	4	8	7	-	-	-	-
1929	do.	19	19	6	19	8	-	-	-	-
1930	do.	5	5	1	5	17	-	-	-	-
1931	do.	-	-	17	-	18	-	-	-	-
	1930 Act.	32	-	32	-	2	-	-	-	-
1932	do.	152	-	95	-	97	1	1	-	22
1933	do.	232	26	188	26	105	4	4	5	96
1934	do.	240	20	173	20	162	3	3	20	29
1935	do.	277	1	218	1	144	74	16	6	42
1936	do.	139	2	210	2	294	32	49	8	37
1937	1936 Act.	460	2	172	2	127	33	37	-	43
1938	do.	513	11	619	11	388	126	105	2	49
1939	do.	473	3	226	3	384	95	79	1	18
1940	do.	-	-	11	-	163	6	34	-	21
1941	do.	-	-	-	-	41	-	-	-	7
1942	do.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
TOTALS Under 1925										
	Act:	95	95	32	95	87	-	-	-	-
Under 1930										
	Act:	1,072	49	916	49	804	114	73	39	226
Under 1936										
	Act:	1,446	16	1,028	16	1,110	250	265	3	140
TOTALS Under										
	Various	2,613	160	1,976	160	2,001	374	338	42	364
Statutes.										

* The figures include 2 houses which were demolished before the Orders could be served.

SECTION E.INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLY.(1) MILK.

On December 31st, 1942, the number of premises and persons registered under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, was as follows :-

Cowsheds : 19	Retail Purveyors (in general) : 140
Dairies : 26	Purveyors of bottled milk only : 544

Licences in force under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, were as follows :-

Pasteurised : 28.	Accredited : 26.	Tuberculin Tested : 10.
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Bacteriological and Biological Examination of Milk Samples.

The work done in 1942 is summarised in the following table :-

ACTION TAKEN RE BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES OF MILK REPORTED
POSITIVE, 1942.

Grade of Milk.	: Number : of : Samples : submitted : for : Biological : examination : tion 1942 :	: Number reported : positive to : Tubercle bacilli :			: Result of subse- : quent action under: : Tuberculosis Order: : 1938 :		: TOTAL : Number of Bovinos : slaughtered at : Abattoir under Order :		
		: Prod- : uced : within : Borough :	: Prod- : uced : out- : side : Borough :	:	: Number : of : animals : slau- : ghtered :	: Result : of : further : sample :	: From : prem- : isos : within : the : Bor- : ough. :	: From : prem- : isos : out- : side : Bor- : ough. :	:
		:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
		:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Tuberculin Tested	: 4	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	:	:	:
Accredited	: 20	: -	: 1	: 1	: 1	: Negative	:	:	:
Pasteurised	: 1	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	:	:	:
Ungraded	: 19	: -	: 1	: 1	: 4	: Negative	:	:	:
TOTALS ...	: 44	: Nil	: 2	: 2	: 5	: -	: 2	: 33	: 35

(2) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The staff at the Abattoir remains unchanged, i.e. one full-time Inspector is employed, and a further District Inspector is on duty throughout the week, two Inspectors thus being employed full-time on this work.

In the amount of meat and offals condemned for the year a decrease of 2 tons is recorded. During the December quarter, however, the amount was approximately 60 tons (average 35 tons) due partly to a gradually increasing number of cows which were slaughtered as "casualties." 64.24% of these cows showed some evidence of tuberculosis and 54.89% of other diseases. The increase for the year in cows slaughtered is about 200 while 3,200 fewer cattle (other than cows) were dealt with.

Meat and Offals condemned from sources outside the Borough is 1 ton 5 cwt 2 qrs 16 lbs.

Under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order 35 cows were slaughtered. 10 were wholly condemned as being affected with advanced tuberculosis.

During the year the Veterinary Officer ordered to be sent to the Abattoir, from the sale yards, a number of animals which were in emaciated or diseased condition. The Officer was notified of the results of inspection and proceedings were taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries against the Owner of 2 cows. Evidence as to unfitness of the meat was given by the Meat Inspector and fines were imposed on the owners of the animals.

(2) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS (Continued).

Legal Proceedings were instituted in respect of the filthy condition of a Cafe Kitchen and the utensils and apparatus therein. The defendant was fined £2.10.0d. on each of the two summonses and the business was subsequently discontinued.

A further firm was prosecuted in respect of unsound mussels (a) exposed for sale and (b) deposited for the purpose of sale; the defendant was convicted on both counts, fined £20 and ordered to pay the costs, amounting to £4.5.0d.

(3) AMENITIES IN FOOD PREMISES.

Additional hot water supplies were provided during the year as follows :-

Dairies : 19.	Restaurants and Cafes : 12.	Bakehouses : 1.
Butchers Shops : 1.	Provision Shops : 4.	Cooked Meat Shops : 3.
	Food Manufacturing Premises : 4.	

(4) THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.Sampling.

The number of samples of food and drugs taken during the year for analysis by the Public Analyst was 248, consisting of 26 Formal Samples and 222 Informal Samples. 30 Samples (12.1%) consisting of 12 Formal Samples and 18 Informal Samples were found to be non-genuine.

92 samples of milk were submitted for analysis and 16 (17.39%) were reported to be adulterated or below the presumptive standard of 3% milk fat laid down by the Sale of Milk Regulations. 13 samples of milk were found to contain extraneous water. 10 of these samples concerned one source of supply, and proceedings instituted against the Producer resulted in a conviction, a fine of £7 being inflicted with £3.12.6d. costs. In the other cases the amount of extraneous water present was very small.

With respect to other non-genuine samples of milk where the deficiency was one of milk-fat in each case, samples taken at the farm proved that the deficiency was a natural one.

A number of prosecutions were taken under S.6 of the Act in respect of articles of food sold with a misleading description or label.

An article labelled "Yorkshire pudding and pancake mixture. Complete with egg", was found to be entirely devoid of egg. The vendors were convicted and a fine of £20 inflicted with 17/6d. costs.

A substance consisting mainly of Bicarbonate of Soda was sold to the public through the post under the name of "Vitamina Food", 2/6d. being charged for a packet, the real value of which was about 1/3d. A sample was obtained and proceedings instituted, resulting in a fine of £4. and £1.3.6d. costs.

A liquid sold under the name of "Vita-Tone, the Nerve and Body Builder," and a restorative after various ailments was found to be mere or less coloured and flavoured water. As a result of proceedings a fine of £12 was inflicted with £4.3.0d. costs.

Two artificially flavoured drinks were sold as "Lemon Squash" and "Lime Fruit". Proceedings were instituted and a fine of £25 inflicted in each case.

No infringement of the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations or of the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations were reported.

All samples submitted for analysis are examined for the presence of a preservative. No prohibited preservatives or colouring matter were found, and no preservative was found in any article of food to which the addition of a preservative of any description is forbidden.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

An outbreak of epidemic catarrhal jaundice occurred during 1942 and a short account of the investigations which were carried out is included in this report. The incidence of Scarlet Fever was spread evenly over the year and the mortality rate continued to be low. There was a marked reduction in the mortality rate of Diphtheria which may be related to the amount of preventive inoculation which has been carried out in Wolverhampton during recent years. There was no especial incidence of other infectious diseases in the town.

SCARLET FEVER.

756 cases of scarlet fever were notified, 111 more than in 1941. The diagnosis was revised in 6, giving a net incidence of 750 or 5.2 per 1,000. 271 or 36% were treated in hospital. One death occurred. Return cases numbered 17 or 2.1%. More cases are receiving domiciliary treatment.

DIPHTHERIA.

122 notifications of diphtheria were received. Deducting 40 cases of revised diagnosis, the net incidence was 82 or 0.5 per 1,000 compared with 1.2 per 1,000 in 1941. There were 5 deaths, 4 of which occurred in hospital including one boy who died at St. Ives, Cornwall, but who was normally resident in the Borough. The case mortality was 6.09% compared with 13.7% in 1941.

MEASLES.

292 cases were notified. The diagnosis was revised in one case. Six cases were admitted to hospital. One death occurred at home in a case that had not been notified.

WHOOPING COUGH.

570 cases were notified and there were 4 deaths. Two deaths occurred in cases that had not been notified. Two cases were admitted to hospital.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ENTERIC FEVER. One case of Typhoid Fever was notified but the diagnosis was revised after removal of the case to hospital.

DYSENTERY. One case was notified and removed to hospital. There were no deaths.

CEREBROSPINAL FEVER. Eleven cases were notified, of which 9 were admitted to hospital. Six deaths were reported, of which 3 occurred in hospital. One death is transferable to another area. Two deaths occurred in cases that had not been notified. The greatest number of cases (6) occurred from January to March.

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS. Three cases were notified, and one case was removed to hospital. There were no deaths.

ERYSIPELAS. Fifty cases were notified and ten were admitted to hospital. One death took place in hospital.

EPIDEMIC CATARRHAL JAUNDICE. An outbreak of epidemic catarrhal jaundice occurred during the late Spring. The majority of the 64 cases investigated were children attending the infant and junior departments of two schools in the northern part of the Borough. The disease showed the usual short infective period of about 10 days with an incubation period of a month. 20 males and 22 females were between the ages of 6 and 10 years. Five schoolteachers were also affected.

Clinically the patients showed the usual picture of a gradual onset of malaise, headache, anorexia and nausea. A few cases had pharyngitis. After 3 or 4 days vomiting occurred, and was followed by jaundice within a period up to a week. The colour was the deep yellow of obstructive jaundice with absence of bile from the faeces. Blood films showed Leucopenia with a relative lymphocytosis.

A striking feature was the absence of cases among the parents of the affected children.

There were no complications and no deaths. Recovery took place after an isolation period of two weeks.

Shortage of trained and untrained nursing staff became acute during the year. Assistance is now being rendered by members of the Civil Nursing Reserve. The major repair work carried out during the year was the replacement of sandbags outside the wards by blast-proof walls.

1. SCARLET FEVER.

Admissions of this disease numbered 335. Seventy-three cases were received from other authorities.

On the whole, scarlet fever was very mild with few complications. One case of septic scarlet fever occurred. Bronchopneumonia developed in one case. Adenitis (4%) and Otorrhoea (5%) were other complications. There was one return case while three patients had second attacks. Five cases (1.5%) had scabies on admission. Only one death due to scarlet fever occurred.

An increasing number of cases from outside the Borough are being admitted.

2. DIPHTHERIA.

112 cases were admitted from Wolverhampton and the diagnosis was revised in 55, leaving a total of 57 for the Borough. Twenty cases were admitted from outside the Borough and the diagnosis was revised in 8, leaving a total of 12 for other areas.

The net incidence of the disease was less than 1 per 1,000. There were 5 deaths, (one of which is transferable from another area), which compares favourably with the 21 deaths recorded during the previous year. The case mortality was 7%. Twelve carriers were admitted.

Analysis of cases and deaths among the immunised and non-immunised (Table A) is given below and shows the value of immunisation in the prevention of Diphtheria.

Table B. which shows the age and sex distribution of diphtheria is again produced. It will be seen that there is a continued swing over to the right as less cases occur in the 0 - 5 years age group, following intensive immunisation.

TABLE A.

36 Children ages 5 - 14 years admitted into Borough Hospital suffering from diphtheria. (School population 22,954).	(1) <u>Immunised:</u>	(a) Developed diphtheria - 2
		(b) Died from diphtheria - 0
	(2) <u>Not Immunised:</u>	(a) Developed diphtheria - 34
		(b) Died from diphtheria - 3

TABLE B.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.										
		0 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 20	20 - 30	30 - 50				
Males : 36	11	30%	14	38%	10	27%	1	2%	0	-
Females: 33	7	21%	7	21%	8	24%	6	18%	2	6%
TOTAL : 69	18	26%	21	30%	18	26%	7	10%	2	3%

The virulence of diphtheria as shown by the incidence of complications appears to have decreased. Palate Paralysis has diminished from 38 cases to 9 cases.

	<u>Slight.</u>	<u>Severe.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pharyngeal.	1	-	1
Ocular.	2	-	2
Neck and Limbs.	1	-	1
Diaphragm.	2	-	2
Cardiac.	-	2	2

One case was admitted with concurrent Measles.

The diagnosis was revised to Vincents Angina in 16 cases.

Only two of the cases admitted were suffering from the laryngeal type of the disease.

Immunised persons admitted as cases of Diphtheria.

Wolverhampton - 6 cases.

(a) Complete immunisation - 3 cases :-

History: No.1. aged 3 years immunised in 1941 with A.P.T. - 2 doses.
 No.2. aged 21 years immunised in 1941 with T.A.F. - 3 doses.
 No.3. aged 6 years immunised in 1941 with A.P.T. - 2 doses.

(b) Incomplete immunisation - 3 cases :-

No.1. aged 5 years immunised in 1942 with one injection of A.P.T.
 No.2. aged 4 years immunised one week before admission with one injection of A.P.T.
 No.3. aged 6 years immunised in 1941 with one injection of A.P.T.

Other Areas. Three cases were admitted from other areas but the immunisation history was not confirmed.

All nine cases were mild and recovered without complications.

3. OTHER DISEASES. Other diseases treated during the year comprised :-

Cerebrospinal Meningitis	-	4
Erysipelas	-	4
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	1
Measles	-	5
Rubella	-	2
Varicella	-	2

All these cases made satisfactory recoveries.

D I P H T H E R I A I M M U N I S A T I O N .

During September and November an immunisation campaign was launched as an effort to increase the number of immunisations of children under school age. This campaign was carried out on lines suggested by the Ministry of Health in a brochure to local authorities. By co-operation with neighbouring local authorities the cost to all of the large scale press publicity was much decreased. A local daily newspaper exhibited the recommended series of fullsize stereos with nine insertions. Canvas streamers were placed outside the clinics, and arrangements were made for the cinema exhibition of slides indicating the clinics. This was followed up by a census of all children under school age by the Health Visitors and visits were paid to parents of un-immunised children to urge them to bring these children to the clinics.

As a result of the response to this campaign it was necessary to open two additional clinics and large numbers attended at the various clinics. The figures for the early part of the following year will show an increase while the table below shows the result for the months of September to December:-

<u>1942.</u>	<u>Under School</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Total No.</u>
	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Children.</u>
September	226	58	284
October	232	327	549
November	524	288	812
December	469	89	553
	1,441	762	2,203

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION (Continued).

For comparison, the figures for the months of October to December, 1941, were as follows :-

<u>Under School</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Total No.</u>
<u>Age.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Children.</u>
<u>297</u>	<u>383</u>	<u>680</u>

In 1942 a total of 3,895 children were immunised. This number comprised 1,233 in schools, 1,945 in Welfare Clinics, 167 by private doctors, 86 in the Borough Isolation Hospital, and 468 in the Central School Clinic (North Street). Of this total 2,003 children were under school age. This number comprised 1,717 in Welfare Clinics, 158 by private doctors, 43 in the Borough Isolation Hospital, and 89 in the Central School Clinic (North Street).

Immunisations performed at the various centres are summarised below :-

<u>Welfare Clinic.</u>	<u>Pre-School</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>No. of</u>
	<u>Children.</u>	<u>Children.</u>	<u>Injections.</u>
Lea Road	609	102	1,433
Stafford Street	287	10	594
Park Lane	442	70	1,026
Fordhouses	249	26	551
Ward Street	130	20	300
	<u>1,717</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>3,904</u>
Central Clinic (North Street)	89	379	936
Private Doctors	158	9	334
Borough Isolation Hospital	43	43	172
	<u>2,003</u>	<u>659</u>	<u>5,346</u>

Sample Schick Tests performed at Welfare Clinics are summarised below :-

<u>Welfare Clinic.</u>	<u>Result Negative.</u>	<u>Result Positive.</u>
Lea Road	212	6
Stafford Street	130	11
Park Lane	78	2
Fordhouses	39	3
Ward Street	55	2
	<u>514</u>	<u>24 (4.6%)</u>

TUBERCULOSIS.

(i) Notification: The number of notified cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at the end of 1942 comprised 851 individuals. These were sub-divided as follows :-

<u>Pulmonary Tuberculosis: Males</u>	<u>- 354</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis: Males</u>	<u>- 107</u>
Females	- 293	Females	- 97

(ii) Incidence: New cases amounted to 141 as compared with 163 in the previous year and 123 in 1940. The heaviest incidence was in males between 35 and 45 years, and females between 15 and 25.

(iii) Deaths: From respiratory tuberculosis were males 47, females 23, and from non-respiratory tuberculosis males 7, females 10. The total tuberculosis rate was 0.59 per 1,000.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The following table shows the increase or decrease in new cases of venereal disease presenting themselves for treatment at the Wolverhampton Centre in 1942 and previous years, compared with the last pre-war year of 1938 :-

New Cases of Syphilis and Gonorrhoea treated
at Wolverhampton V.D. Clinic during the five
years 1938 - 1942.

<u>SYPHILIS.</u>					<u>GONORRHOEA.</u>			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.	% Increase or Decrease.	Male.	Female.	Total.	% Increase or Decrease.
1938.	36	27	63	-	123	50	173	-
1939.	36	23	59	- 6.3%	108	38	146	- 15.6%
1940.	28	38	66	+ 4.8%	76	36	112	- 35.3%
1941.	23	25	48	-23.8%	115	50	165	- 4.6%
1942.	37	42	79	+25.4%	108	57	165	- 4.6%

N.B. Columns (5) and (9) give the % increase or decrease on the 1938 totals.

There has been no increase in gonorrhoea cases of either sex but 1942 saw more new cases of syphilis, especially in females. Defaulters from treatment were less than 5%. Local and general propaganda has had no appreciable effect on the number of new cases which were diagnosed as venereal. The Treatment Centre at the Royal Hospital is open every weekday morning and on two afternoons and three evenings a week. Either sex of patient should be able to find a day and time to suit his convenience.

